The Acting Secretary reported

(1) that Mr. Govinda Pillai and Mr. Udaya Varma Raja had written, expressing their inability to attend the meeting ; and

(2) that a petition had been received from Kanakku Thanuvan Kumaren of Puthen Veedu, Ponmana, Vilavancode, and 75 others, on the Arms Regulation Amendment Bill. [The petition has been circulated among the members].

THE PUBLIC GAMBLING REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Ananda Row.—I beg to apply for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Public Gambling Regulation, III of 1071.

Permission was granted accordingly.

THE LAND CONSERVANCY REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Ananda Row.—I beg permission for the introduction of a Bill to amend the Land Conservancy Regulation, II of 1067, as amended by Regulation I of 1075.

Permission was granted accordingly.

THE AGRICULTURAL LOANS REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Vieyra.—Sir, I beg to ask for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Agricultural Loans Regulation, IV of 1066. Though the Regulation has been in force for about 17 years, it appears to have been so far practically inoperative. One of the remedies suggested is to make the Regulation applicable to garden and dry as well as to wet lands. The provisions of the Regulatian, as they now stand, apply only to wet lands.

Permission was granted accordingly.

THE POLICE REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Sankara Menon.—I beg to ask for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Police Regulation, IV of 1056, on the lines of the Madras Act VIII of 1895.

Permission was granted accordingly.

BILL TO AMEND THE TOWNS CONSERVANCY AND IMPROVEMENT REGULATION (III OF 1076).

Mr. Vieyra.—Sir, at the last meeting of the Council, held on the 1st of June, permission was accorded for the introduction of a Bill to amend the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation, III of 1076. The draft Bill, with the statement of objects and reasons, has been since published in the Gazette. Fifteen days have elapsed since the date of publication, and I beg therefore to introduce the Bill under Section 33 of the Council Rules, and to move that the principle of the Bill be affirmed in Council. The necessity for amending in several respects the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation, III of 1076, has been felt for some years past. Two years ago an attempt was made to introduce a consolidated Bill on the lines of the District Municipalities Act, but that Bill was withdrawn, as it was considered that the elaborate provisions of the Madras Act were hardly called for in the circumstances of this State, and that a few important amendments in the existing law, found to be absolutely necessary, would serve all practical purposes. The necessity for adopting most of the provisions contained in the present draft Bill has also been urged upon Government at successive meetings of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. In the present Bill, amendments are proposed, which appear necessary in the interests of public health and safety, which would infuse into local bodies a spirit of self-help and remove to some extent the burden on the general tax-payer who has now to provide for the comfort and convenience of urban areas.

Section 1 of the draft Bill is intended to meet the case where the Division Peishkar may not be the President of the Committee. The provision is necessary in view of the gradual extension of the Regulation to fresh areas.

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